

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE**Update**

March 27, 2018

SUBJECT: Florida College System (FCS) Update

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

N/A

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dr. Thomas Leitzel, President, South Florida State College, will provide a Florida College System update on behalf of the FCS Council of Presidents on items presented below.

CHANCELLOR'S INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE CONVENING

On Thursday, February 8th, more than 160 faculty, staff and administrators from the 28 colleges – as well as representatives from national and statewide organizations including CareerSource, Apple, Farovi Shipping, to name a few – attended the Chancellor's 2018 Innovation and Excellence Convening in Tallahassee.

The opening keynote speaker, Dr. Mary O'Hara-Devereaux, provided us with insightful commentary on the future of jobs and the coming workforce. She challenged us to continually exercise foresight knowing that more than half of all jobs we train for today will not be there in the next decade. Preparing tomorrow's workforce requires new and collaborative approaches to support individual talent, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Our luncheon keynote, Josh Wyner of the Aspen Institute, discussed key tenets of what excellent colleges do. He stressed that improving college student success is a vital national priority. While the open access and affordability that characterizes our colleges has benefitted millions of Americans, now we must focus on getting more students successfully through to high-wage career opportunities. I am also proud to share that many of our colleges are competing for the 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

The day concluded with the announcement of the Florida Student Success Center initiative that was made possible with a \$1 million grant from the Helios Education Foundation. The Center will support Florida's state and community colleges' efforts to develop student-centered pathways and increase student completion rates. This exciting announcement was followed by a panel of our presidents that highlighted the varying stages of implementation of student pathways that increase retention, success and focus on building a culture of excellence.

CAMPUS SAFETY

Our hearts go out to the students, families and teachers of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. In the wake of these tragic events, neighboring Broward College leadership organized blood drives, offered mental health counseling services through the college's Student Assistance Program, and greeted dual enrolled students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in coordinated efforts to immediately support those impacted by the tragedy. Many other colleges from across the state also reached out to graduates of

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and nearby high schools to offer support and counseling resources.

In recent weeks, all of our colleges have engaged in conversations about preventative security measures and mental health, and reflected on what could be done in the event of a critical incident on our campuses. Immediately following the tragedy, the Executive Teams of the Councils for Instructional and Student Affairs, alongside Division of Florida Colleges staff, convened at their February meeting to discuss gaps in preparedness and event-based infrastructure needed to prevent and respond to critical incidents. Out of this discussion emerged five recommendations:

1. Data sharing: Leverage statewide Florida Educational Identification numbers to ensure critical information collected at the K-12 level is shared with the receiving college to ensure continuity of services as a preventative measure.
2. Mental Health Counseling Services: Continue to enhance mental health counseling services to students through a variety of strategies that include partnerships with organizations that offer mental health counseling.
3. Behavioral Intervention Teams (BIT) & Threat Assessment Protocols: Put in place and enhance existing campus-based teams to assess and respond to potential threats. These protocols build on statutorily-required Continuity of Operation Plans (COOP) and existing college efforts to leverage BIT to adopt preventive and proactive strategies to ensure safety.
4. Professional Learning: Develop a standard professional development protocol that ensures our collective staff, faculty and students are adequately trained to identify potential threats.
5. Event-Based Needs: Establish incident-control strategies such as technology adoption and partnerships with law enforcement.

Recognizing this is not an exhaustive list, the Chancellor is compiling a list of additional recommendations, best practices and strategies for prevention and crisis response for the Florida College System. The Council of Presidents is committed to continuing discussions and efforts to keep our campuses safe.

COLLEGE RECOGNITION

Congratulations to the following colleges for being awarded the first Siemens-Aspen Community College STEM Award, in recognition of the outstanding preparation and education those programs provide students seeking careers in STEM:

- Broward College;
- Hillsborough Community College;
- Miami Dade College; and
- Valencia College.

PRESIDENT RETIREMENT

Congratulations to President Cynthia Bioteau of Florida State College at Jacksonville on her upcoming retirement in May 2018.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Supporting Documentation Included: N/A

Facilitator/Presenter: Dr. Tom Leitzel, President, South Florida State College